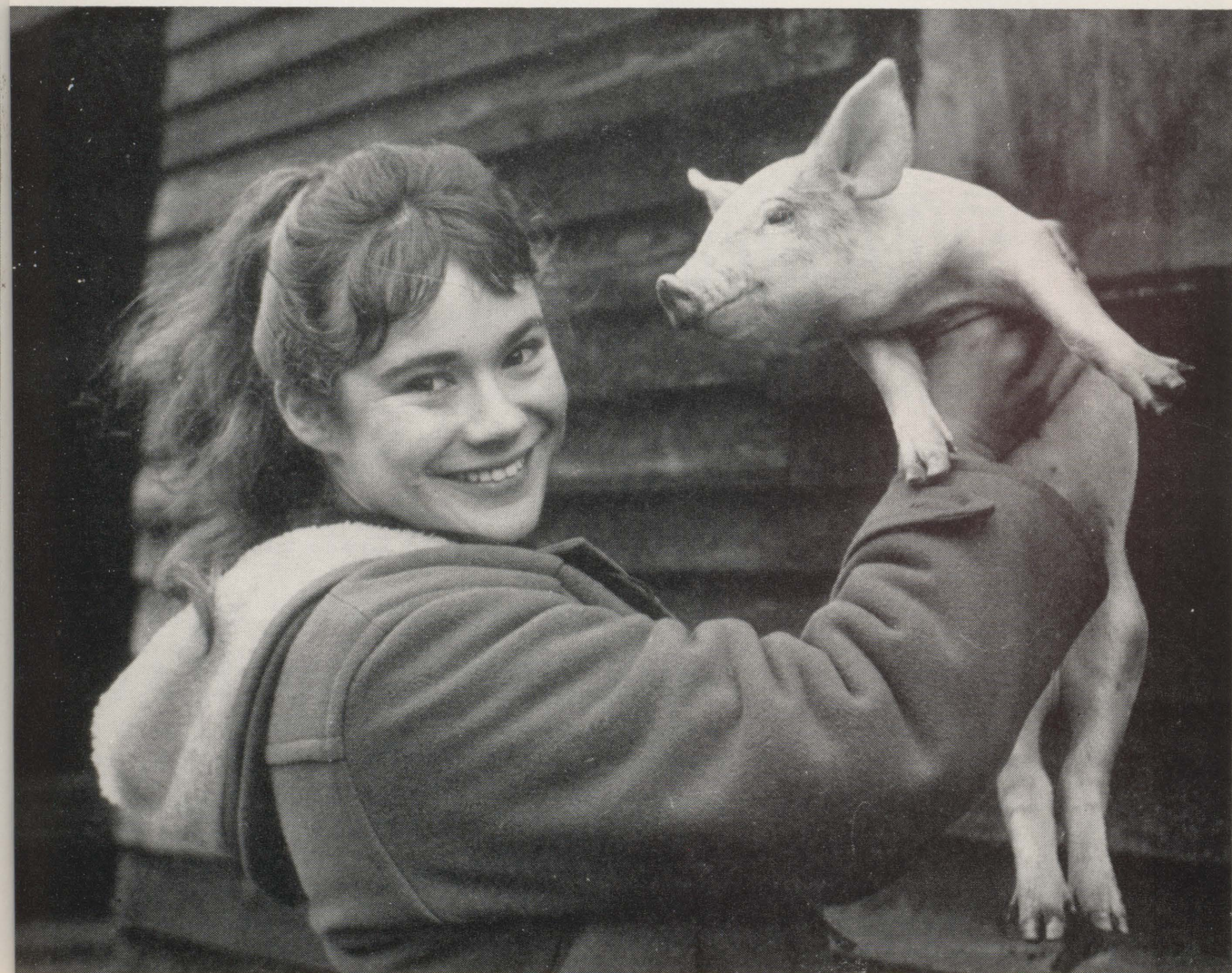


The Macdonald FARM Journal



Vol. 21, No. 2

February, 1960



JUDGES' CHOICE

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*Orders accepted by the Extension Service,
Macdonald College, Que.*



Breaking land for pasture that yielded at rate of 5,000 lbs. milk per acre per season.

Is Your Pasture Dying of Old Age?

Some interesting pointers on productive forage

By Ray ABBEY

HOW old is a pasture?

Stockmen can tell the age of a horse by its teeth. Woodlot operators can tell the age of a tree by the number of annual rings. A crop man has no such definite index to indicate the age of a pasture.

But there are signs of old age just the same. Dr. H. A. Steppler, Professor and Head of the Department of Agronomy, Macdonald College will tell you a pasture is old when unproductive native grasses crowd out the more vigorous seeded types to the extent of twenty-five percent.

"By that time a pasture is "getting on," it's worn out and in need of re-seeding to get it back in

production," says this agronomist.

By production Steppler means something in the order of 6,000 to 6,400 pounds of milk from each acre of pasture.

"And I'm not suggesting that 6,400 pounds is the limit," Steppler states. "That's what we've reached in a single round of pasture experiments on Quebec Farms. The second time round, yields should be higher."

In 1932 College workers established the fact that yield of native Quebec pasture could be doubled by fertilizer alone; there was no seeding done, no controlled grazing or pasture management in those days.

Farmers like J. S. MacKinnon, Way's Mills in the Eastern Town-

ships of Quebec learned to expect 1,000 to 1,500 pounds of milk to the acre from hardy grasses that just naturally invade the better soils of the Townships. These, of course include Kentucky blue grass, the fescues, and red top.

More recently when the Macdonald Farm Pasture Committee started new pasture establishment studies, MacKinnon and his son Doug, holding a Diploma in Agriculture from Macdonald, were willing cooperators. With the guidance of agronomists, the MacKinnons plowed up a 6-acre piece of land near the barn in mid-summer 1954. They kept it cultivated the rest of the season and by freeze-up had a well worked seedbed. Early in 1955, with the snow and frost still

in the ground, Dr. Stepler walked over the area with a cyclone seeder, broadcasting a mixture of timothy, brome, Ladino clover and birdsfoot trefoil.

As the frost came out of the ground, the small forage seeds settled in among the cracks and crevices of the soil. And with all that early spring moisture, the seeds were ready to sprout just as soon as the soil warmed up.

How did this early seeding make out without benefit of a spring cultivation, or a nurse crop?

"It was grazed three times in July for a total of 10 days, it was grazed another six days in August and eleven days in September," Stepler reports. "We calculated the yield that first year at 1,800 pounds of forage dry matter per acre, which is equivalent when converted into milk by the cow to 1,800 pounds of milk per acre."

(Agronomists have calculated that one pound of good quality specially dried forage like pasture will produce approximately one pound of milk when fed to a cow, or, in the case of beef cattle, ten pounds of quality forage dry matter will produce one pound of beef.)

That was in the seeding year. In the first production year (1956) this Eastern Townships pasture yielded 6,200 pounds of dry matter per acre. In 1957, 6,300 pounds; in 1958, 5,500 pounds. In 1959, the fourth year after seeding, production had dropped to 3,800 pounds of dry matter.

"By this time the blue grasses were creeping in again," Stepler reports. "A count of the herbage in the pasture in 1959 revealed 30 percent blue grasses and other non productive species."

In the meantime however, on these improved areas, MacKinnon had estimated his actual milk yield at 5,000 pounds of milk per acre, or a gross return of \$135 per acre for the season with milk at \$2.70 hundredweight.

There's a natural trend to lower producing species of grasses and legumes in pasture Stepler points out. Under conditions of this trial carried out on a Greensboro loam soil it appears that the vigorous and abundant ladino clover and timothy persist only for three highly productive years. To keep production at a high level the farmer would thus have to consider plowing up to reseed.

There are other factors influencing the longevity of ladino and



Jerseys are too busy eating to notice one Holstein in their ranks.

Stepler suggests that one of the more serious factors leading to short lived pastures is overgrazing.

"Timothy and brome won't survive close grazing the way native blue grasses and red top will," says this agronomist.

To reduce the danger of overgrazing MacKinnon practised rotational grazing, dividing his improved pasture into two or three acre plots for better control.

Lime and fertilizer also have an effect on the life of a good pasture. MacKinnon's Greensboro loam received lime early in the trial, also 400 pounds of 0-20-20 fertilizer every fall to feed and maintain the ladino clover. Being a legume, the ladino clover supplies the nitrogen

needs of the grasses in the mixture.

"There are 350,000 acres of Greensboro loam, representing 30 percent of the land in Stanstead, Compton, Sherbrooke and Richmond counties according to Prof. Stepler. There's another 50,000 acres of Sherbrooke sandy loam in the area which demonstrates pretty much the same pattern and potential as Greensboro loam for ladino-timothy pastures. Comparatively low summer temperatures and well distributed rainfall of course contribute to the success of this grass legume combination as a milk producer on many farms in the Eastern Townships. In Doug MacKin-

(Please turn to page 20)



Cows fill up quickly on this ladino pasture in Nicolet Co. Quebec.

THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

gives a

Report to the Province



Neglect of Simple Measures Is Costly

Baby pig anemia responds to iron treatment

RESULTS of baby pig anemia are so serious and the prevention of anemia is so simple that this disease should be of no more than historical interest, in the opinion of a leading Canadian animal pathologist.

But, adds Dr. Ronald Gwatkin of the Health of Animals Division, Canada Department of Agriculture, through neglect of simple precautionary measures, iron-deficiency anemia is extremely common.

It continues to take a heavy toll of suckling pigs, says Dr. Gwatkin, and indirectly causes other trouble in older pigs.

Affected litters appear healthy and active at birth. If not given iron they usually remain healthy for about two weeks, when some begin to show a pallor of the skin, especially on the snout and around the hooves. Puffiness often develops around the eyes.

When affected animals try to run about or play, they stop suddenly in an exhausted state, breathe rapidly and deeply and make a thumping sound. This results from an insufficient oxygen supply caused by the reduced oxygen-carrying power of the blood.

Many piglets die from uncomplicated anemia in the first few weeks and the survivors lose their plump, smooth appearance, fail to make proper growth, and are rough and stunted. Death often results from secondary infections that creep in, or from heavy parasitism with roundworms to which anemic pigs are more susceptible than normal ones.

Losses are variable, running as high as 60 per cent in some litters, depending on the severity of the anemia and on the degree of exposure to other conditions. Most researchers agree that sub-clinical or undetected anemia may play a part in reducing the resistance of the pigs to later infections.

There are many iron prepara-

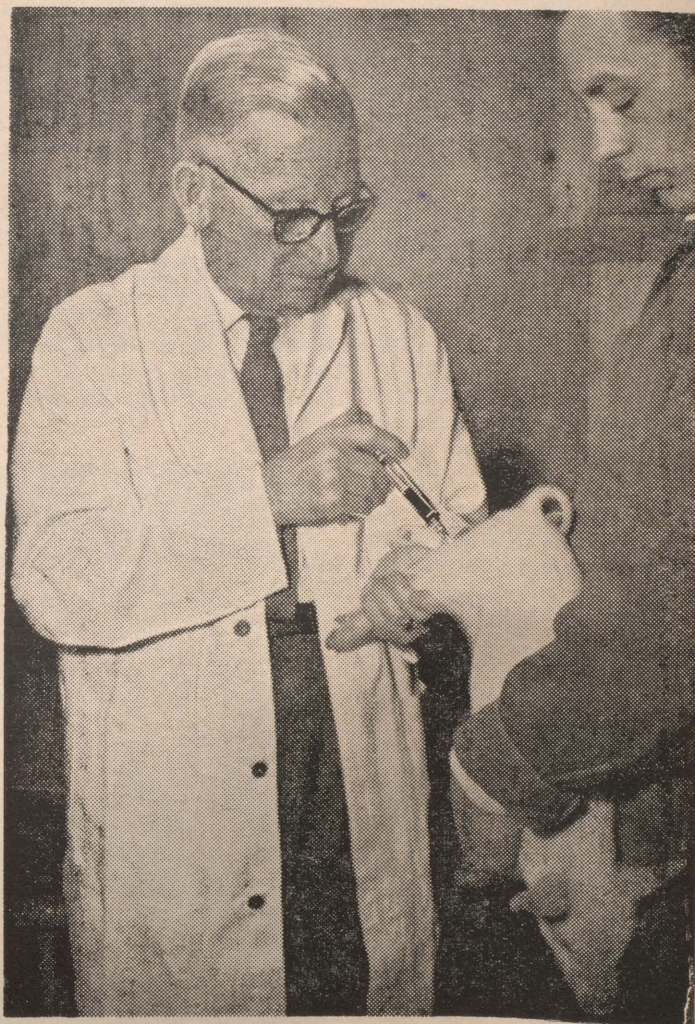
tions which can be given by mouth or injected into the muscles. It has been shown that 0.3 gram of reduced iron—about as much as lies on a dime—prevents anemia if given once a week until the pigs are on solid food. The first dose should be given the second or third day after birth. It can be given easily and quickly by placing the dose on the back of the tongue with the handle of a teaspoon.

Injectable iron is also available

and, according to Dr. Gwatkin, has given better results than the reduced iron. Injections are given in the muscles of the hind leg. Two intramuscular injections containing 100 milligrams of iron each should be given, the first not later than the third day and the second 10 days later.

Dr. Gwatkin says discoloration of the skin following injection will not occur if the preparation is in-

(Continued on page 10)



INJECTING IRON—Dr. Ronald Gwatkin injecting iron in the deep muscle of the hind leg of a baby pig. The needle may be inserted from the back of the leg or from the side.

Reaping What You Sow...

... is not just a worn out maxim

By John ELLIOTT

EVERYBODY has a weed problem without aggravating the situation by sowing uncleaned home grown or non inspected seeds.

It is not just sales talk that the Canadian Seed Growers Association, Canadian Seed Trade Association, the Provincial and Federal Governments, the co-operatives, 4-H clubs and other organizations advocate the sowing of good seed. This is not high pressure salesmanship to force farmers in buying something they don't want. These organizations have long realized the value of good seed and its relation to the farm and farmer.

The Quebec Seed Board (Bulletin 32A, Quebec Department of Agriculture) put out recommendations for varieties and districts, brought up to date each year and made only when definite information on varieties is known to be good.

So let's take a closer look at good seed. Germination may be hindered by old age, mechanical injury in the handling, or by disease. Low germination may also be caused by post exposure when seed is immature or high in moisture. The opposite to this latter situation would be heating in storage bins. Another quality of good seed is freedom of impurities which may be classed as dirt, chaff and weed seeds. Impurities would also require a higher seeding rate. These reasons bring up another quality of good seed — that of genuineness. When seed is bought the grower wants assurance that the seed is the variety that it is said to be. These qualities therefore are a prerequisite to the next step of choosing the variety. In doing this certain things must be taken into account. The adaptability of the variety to the district, the maturing date, and the purpose to which it will be used.

It is always better to start off growing the best—Registered No. 1. It is not necessary however to buy it every year after that providing weather conditions have permitted a good growth, it is free



Resting after a bountiful feed on high quality herbage.

from disease and noxious weeds and has not been contaminated with other varieties. If home grown seed is used it should be prepared on a reduction of approximately 33% in the cleaning process and would also be worth the trouble of making a germination test. Don't forget for a good yield you must know what was sown, for you only reap what you sow.

JANUARY 1ST MEAT STOCKS

Canada entered the new year with total freezer holdings of the four red meats at 67 million lb., just 3 million lb., more than at the start of 1959. Over 40 million lb. of the January 1, 1960 total consisted of pork — most of it owned by the Agricultural Stabilization Board. In addition to these stocks, the Board also holds a large quantity of canned pork luncheon meat.

Freezer stocks were as follows:

	Jan. 1, 1959	Jan. 1, 1960	%
Pork	29.9	40.7	+ 36
Beef	19.1	13.8	- 28
Veal	4.0	2.9	- 27
Lamb and mutton	6.0	2.6	- 57
Fancy meats	4.9	5.2	+ 6
Poultry	46.6	25.4	- 45

HOW TO STORE POULTRY FEED

In storing feed for poultry, it is advisable to take one or two simple precautions which are vital factors in preserving the quality of the nutrients and maintaining the appetite and safeguarding the health of the birds.

Mr. Albert Roy of the Poultry Division of the Quebec Department of Agriculture recommends that feed be stored at a low temperature in a dry place. This means that it should not be kept in the brooder-house or on the floor of the laying-pen. Mr. Roy advises poultrymen to provide a proper storage where the sacks of feed can be placed on a raised grating or lattice so that they do not get damp. Steps should also be taken to get rid of vermin.

It is risky to store feed for long periods of time because poultry are very sensitive to the quality of their food. Spoilt or mouldy feed causes serious digestive troubles. Apart from this, old feed is stale, unappetizing and lacking in vitamins. The birds therefore do not eat so much of it and derive less benefit from what they do eat and, as a result, their growth is retarded and egg-production drops.

The quality and nutritive value of poultry feed depends considerably on proper storage.

Macdonald College Royal

FEB. 25, 1960

Program

9.00 a.m.	Opening of the Livestock Exhibition	Judging Pavilion
9.00 a.m.	Judging of Booth Competition	Men's Gymnasium
10.00 a.m.	Official Opening of College Royal	Men's Gymnasium
	Crowning of the Queen	
	Announcement of Booth Competition	
11.00 a.m.	Gymnastic Display	Women's Gymnasium
11.00 a.m.	Meeting of High School Students	Assembly Hall
11.15 a.m.	Cake Decorating Demonstration	Main Building

Meals

	Dining Hall (11.45-1.15)	Women's Residence
	Coffee Shop (any time)	Men's Residence
1.00 p.m.	Livestock Exhibition	Judging Pavilion
1.00 p.m.	Gymnastic Display	Women's Gymnasium
1.20 p.m.	Rythms	Women's Gymnasium
1.30 p.m.	Square Dance finals	Women's Gymnasium
1.30-3.30 p.m.	Tractor Rodeo	Glenfinnan Rink
2.00 p.m.	Cake Decorating Demonstration	Main Building
3.00 p.m.	Fashion Show	Assembly Hall
3.00 p.m.	Puppet Show	Main Building
3.15-5.00 p.m.	Tea	Laird Hall
3.30 p.m.	Home made mix demonstration	Main Building
3.30 p.m.	Puppet Show	Main Building
3.30 p.m.	Champion Livestock showman competition	Judging Pavilion
4.30 p.m.	Auction Sale of Home Economics Demonstration Products	Main Building
7.30 p.m.	Presentation of Prizes and Trophies before the "Green and Gold"	Assembly Hall

13TH COLLEGE ROYAL

"Science plays its part" . . . thus we progress." These are the themes from the first college fair and the most recent, the 13th annual Macdonald College Royal. When combined, they embody its many aims and principles.

Visitors are shown what the students at Macdonald College learn and how they are putting this education into practice. The students themselves gain invaluable experience in organization at all levels. The Royal is thus a show window, displaying to all who spend the day with us the advancements made in the Sciences of Agriculture, Home Economics and Teaching.

This year's programme will begin with the skirl o' pipes, as five fair princesses are escorted into the Mens' Gymnasium. One will be chosen to reign as Queen For the Day. As she glides from one event to another she will be attended by

her faithful maidens and by members of the Gold Key Society.

George Atkins, well known and widely heard CBC farm broadcast producer and announcer, will officially open this year's Royal, then the winner of the booth competition will be announced. Of interest to the ladies, Miss Helen Bulk of Eaton's in Toronto will be present, to speak later in the day at the fashion show.

Throughout the day the Livestock Exhibition will run. The Royal's oldest competition, now a tradition for all. Three weeks prior to the Royal, students wishing to participate, choose their animals, and from that day on showman and animal are constant companions. The animal is taught proper carriage, stance and walk, while the showman learns the fundamentals concerning grooming of his animal and proper procedure to be followed when showing the animal to its best advantage. This

show is not limited to male members of the college, a large number of girls will also take part in special classes. This has always been a crowd pleaser and promises this year to be an even greater success with the largest student participation ever.

Of major interest to farmers will be the machinery display exhibits from Farm Machinery Companies. These include the latest models of implements and equipment available.

The Institute of Education which trains all Quebec Protestant Teachers will show visitors, the newest innovations in teaching. Included in the displays will be an audio visual exhibit featuring proper methods in showing films and the use of tapes and recordings. In addition, the Physical Education students will demonstrate form and skill in display of gymnastics.

A complete programme has been drawn up for the ladies, and a puppet show, where the children can enjoy themselves while the mothers are watching the fashion show or the Home Made Mix Demonstration. This event is designed to prove that cake mixes may be manufactured economically at home, rather than bought at the store.

Climaxing a very eventful day will be the student presentation of the Green and Gold Revue. A musical comedy production entitled "The Rise and Fall of Sammy Small."

INTERNATIONAL CHAMPION COMES TO QUEBEC

IT will come as a pleasant surprise to Angus breeders of eastern Canada to learn that Polynesian of Ankony, the bull which was first prize Junior Yearling Angus bull at the recent Chicago International, is the proud property of Mr. and Mrs. David S. Yuile of Ste. Genevieve, Que. The bull was shown however in the name of his breeders, Ankony Farm of Rhinebeck, N. Y.

This outstanding youngster was sired by Eileenmere 1032, and was out of the imported cow, Primula of Fordhouse. The sire of the young bull was also sire of the Reserve Champion at the same show and winner of the "Get of Sire" class in the Angus section.

Although there are no calves on the ground as yet by this promising young bull, the Angus fraternity in Quebec is anxiously awaiting their appearance in the paddocks at 'Pierrefonds Farm.'

APPLES STOP TOOTH DECAY

AN apple a day may not, as grandmother insisted, always be effective in keeping the doctor away but there's growing evidence that it can at least keep the dentist away.

Research recently concluded in Britain indicates that apple eating does play a major part in preventing tooth decay. The research project, conducted jointly by Liverpool University and the Medical Research Council, goes a long way towards proving scientifically what was formerly once only conjecture.

The researchers, concerned at the growing incidence of tooth decay among English children, were looking for a simple and effective measure that was popular and easy to perform when toothbrushing was impracticable. They decided that a crisp, juicy apple was the best answer.

Nearly 400 children were divided into two groups, an Apple Group and a Control Group. The Apple Group was given apple slices to eat regularly every day over a period of two years, at the end of each meal and after eating anything between meals.

As the survey proceeded it became apparent that the children who were not given extra apples were developing a significantly larger percentage of decay than the children in the Apple Group. In fact, the survey had to be kept secret from the public at this stage in case parents of the Control Group families heard that apples were good for the teeth and began giving them to their children.

The conclusion of the authors of this experiment was that the gum condition of the children was significantly better in the Apple Group than in the Control Group and that the effects of apples on reducing the incidence of tooth decay was encouraging.

What exactly does the apple do? Its sharp tang and the process of chewing its fibrous fragments stimulates a flow of saliva, which itself helps to clean the teeth. Secondly, the mechanical cleansing action of the pieces of apple sweeping over teeth and gum removes food debris and stimulates the gum tissues.

Prevention is better than cure and much less expensive. By the simple rearrangement of the order in which you eat your food you can reduce the incidence of tooth decay. And when the tooth brush is not there and you do not have the chance to use it, that's another

reason why you should remember to clean your teeth with an apple.

EASY PICKING

The first carlot of electronically picked-over pea-bean seeds was recently shipped by Western Canada Seed processors to a food processing company for the manufacture of pork and beans.

DECEMBER HOG SURVEY

Results of the December 1st hog survey released by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, January 15th, give Canadian producers some further insight into probable happenings in the industry.

The highlights are:

Hogs on farms December 1, 1959—7% lower than 1958

1959 fall pig crop (June to November)—5% below 1958

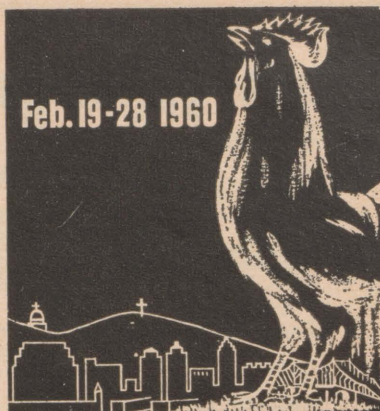
Expected 1960 farrowing (December to May)—16% less than 1959.

The 7% decrease in hogs on farms at December 1st was accounted for by a 2% decrease in Eastern Canada and an 11% decrease in the West. The pronounced liquidation of hogs in recent months, as evidenced by heavy marketings, bears out the survey's report. There were 11% more hogs on farms at June 1, 1959, compared to the previous year. This lead was reduced to 3% by September 1st and had changed to a 7% decrease by December 1, 1959.

The 5% decrease in the fall pig crop from 4,882,000 in 1958 to 4,622,000 in 1959 was accounted for by a 6.5% decrease in sows farrowed. This pig crop is being marketed now and will continue through to about May 1960.

Further liquidation seems evident, as expected farrowings from December 1959 to May 1960 will be down 14% in the East and 19% in the West. The report also states that sow marketings during the last five weeks of the year were 21% greater than a year earlier. Farmers' December 1st indications may not have taken this heavy sow liquidation into account fully, so that forecasts of sows to farrow might be slightly high. The results of farmers farrowing plans and management during this December to May period, of course, will constitute the summer and fall marketings in 1960.

Feb. 19-28 1960



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Course On Co-Operative Leadership Macdonald College

Feb. 28 to Mar. 2, 1960

Especially for directors, managers and leaders of co-operatives, this shortcourse will study the role of market and supply co-operatives in the present and future agricultural industry, education of members, and the situation of agricultural co-ops in Quebec. There will be speakers, panels, discussions, films and tours of co-ops.

Dr. R. S. Staples, president of the Co-operative Union of Canada and Dr. D. L. MacFarlane of Macdonald College will be assisting with the course. It is sponsored by the Extension Service of Macdonald College and Quebec Farmers' Association.

Fee — including room, meals and tuition — is \$25 per person.

**Requests for information and registrations should be sent to
Box 237, Macdonald College, P.Q.**

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MONTREAL

DR. GUSTAVE LABELLE

THE director of the School of Veterinary Medicine at St. Hyacinthe, Dr. Gustave Labelle, was killed Friday February 5th, when his auto collided with an oil-tanker on the Laurentian Autoroute.

Dr. Labelle, 62, son of Dr. Joseph Labelle, also a veterinarian, was born at St. Eustache. He was educated at Ste. Eustache College and Ste. Therese Seminary and graduated from the school of Veterinary Medicine, Montreal, in 1918.

He started practising veterinary medicine at St. Eustache in 1921 and in 1928 was invited to lecture at the veterinarians' school then located at Oka.

In 1942, he became director of studies at the school and when it moved to St. Hyacinthe, was appointed director, a post he held until his death.

Dr. Labelle was a former mayor of St. Eustache, president of the St. Eustache School Commission and regional president of the St. Jean Baptiste Society. He was also a member of the Studies Commission of the University of Montreal, member of the board of governors of the Quebec School of Veterinarians and a past-president of the Veterinarian Medical Society of Quebec.

He is survived by his wife, the former Bernadette Larivee; two daughters, Christianne and Maryse; one son, Marc-Andre; three brothers, Aldoma, of Alberta, Dr. E. Charles, of Riviere-du-Loup, and Ubald, Montreal.

Neglect Can Be Costly . . .

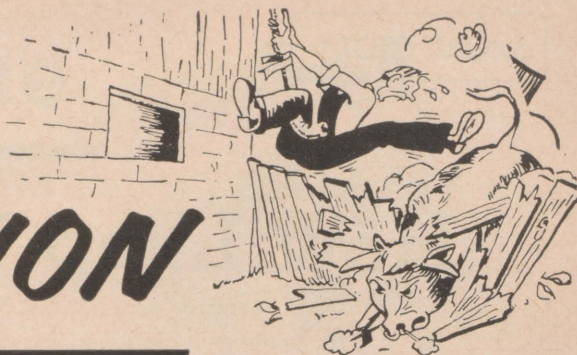
(Continued from page 6)

jected to a proper depth and the skin drawn down when the needle is inserted so that it moves back and covers the hole in the muscle.

A word of warning:

The proper dose of iron may be expected to give the desired results but overdosage must be avoided. While there appears to be a good degree of tolerance to iron in pigs it has been shown that excessive doses cause trouble.

Letters for our **BEEF SECTION**



WHAT'S NEW WITH QUEBEC APPLE GROWERS

Dear Mr. Green:

You may be interested in hearing of the promotional activities now being undertaken by the apple growers of our province.

It is an unfortunate fact that Quebec's apple-growing industry, which has made an important and traditional contribution to the economy for more than 100 years, is faced with extinction unless local growers can win back some of the markets that have been lost to out-of-province citrus fruit growers during the past few years.

To win back these markets for local growers and to re-establish the popularity of the apple with consumers are the main aims of the promotion being currently undertaken by the growers through this Society.

You may be assured that we will keep you posted with developments in this campaign. Some background material on the Quebec apple industry is included with this letter, but if there is any further information which you require, please do not hesitate to call on us.

Yours very truly,

Hamilton Marshall,
President, Quebec Pomological and
Fruit Growing Society.

WHAT COLOR IS AN EGG?

Dear Editor:

A countryman's bird-feeding activities on winter mornings include a flock of hungry White Leghorns. These birds are less colorful than grosbeaks and less charming than chickadees, but they offer a return in eggs that can become part of a breakfast and help out with pancake batter and corn muffins. Leghorn hens and Leghorn eggs are as white and as appropriate as the snowbanks that surround a farm in February.

But all eggs are not white. A recent article in "The Rural New Yorker," under the title of "Brown or White Eggs in New England,"

tells of a discussion at a meeting of the New Hampshire Poultry Growers Association. There were sharp differences of opinion. Backers of coffee-colored hen fruit argued that there is a definite and established preference in New England for brown eggs and that the customers should get what they want, especially in an area where there is a price advantage in supplying such eggs.

The liking in New England for brown-shelled eggs is a long admitted and rather inexplicable fact. A White Leghorn has to meet competition as certain as that between the clam chowder of Massachusetts and the Manhattan variety where a clam is supposed to be half tomato. It is possible there is an inherent tendency toward brown in New England tastes which has evidence in a hearty fondness for baked beans, gingerbread, doughnuts and molasses cookies. There has always been a link between West Indies' dark sweetening and New England kitchens.

Food habits are hard to change, as the present discussion among New Hampshire poultry growers proves. A brown egg may keep its triumph in Boston and be popular beyond any Leghorn product. But in upstate New York a countryman's Leghorns will continue to shell out eggs as white as local snowflakes. After all, the important thing is to have eggs appear sunny side up on a cold, dark morning. Who eats an egg shell anyway?

"Just Curious."

HINTS ON STUBBORN EWES

Dear Editor:

Now that it is lambing time again, I thought I'd like to get some ideas of mine about nursing troubles into your College magazine. (I always did like to tell professors something they didn't know before.)

Anyhow if a ewe has lost her lamb for one reason or another, or

doesn't want to own one of her lambs, put the ewe in a small pen. Take two boards or round sticks, nail them at the ends of the pen so as to box the ewe in, just as wide as the sheep's body and just as high as the lamb's back. Nail one cross piece in back of the ewe, very close. Put a leather strap around her neck, and tie her with about 12 inches of rope to the front of the pen. Feed and water the ewe extra well to keep up her milk production.

Watch to make sure that the lamb feeds by himself and from both sides. Experience will teach how wide the ewe's stall should be, so she can lie down and get up easily and still not squirm away from the lamb. Look at them often, and take the cross-piece off from in back of the ewe just as soon as she will stand well for the lamb to feed.

Just as soon as you see the ewe chewing her cud when the lamb is feeding, take off the side sticks. If all goes well, she can be untied, and if she is still taking care of the lamb a day or two later, she can be let out with the flock. Sometimes this takes three days, sometimes two weeks.

THIRD: If a ewe has twins and owns only one, take the one she does own away — out of sight — out of hearing. Put the ewe in an individual pen with the other lamb. Watch to make sure she doesn't hurt it. Tie her if necessary, but only if she really fights the lamb.

Bring the wanted lamb back to feed every hour or two, and take him right away. Be sure both lambs are feeding at that time. Sometimes this has to be done only once, and sometimes it takes a couple of days, depending on how soon after lambing it is noticed.

All these things require patience and effort, but they pay off well in the end.

A good shepherd should be well acquainted with his flock, and live with them at lambing time.

Perc M. Weaver

SHORT STORY

How Limp Was My Lettuce?

By Alastair FRAME

In which a mere man learns a lot about several things, but only a little about women

USUALLY when I arrive home from work Alice is busy in the kitchen preparing the evening meal. Last night when I went through to greet her, the limpest lettuce I ever saw was lying on the table. "What on earth is this?" I asked. "A lettuce," she answered tartly. "The stuff salads are made of."

"But I thought lettuces were supposed to have hearts."

"They have. Only you can't count on it."

"Well, *this* one hasn't. If it's a fair question, how much did you pay for it?"

When she told me I wouldn't believe it.

"It's robbery. Daylight robbery," I stormed. "Take it back! Don't let them get away with this."

My wife is a patient woman. She pointed out that to start with the store was closed; she had seen the lettuce before she bought it, and, she said, "I'm not going to make a fool of myself in front of a lot of older women in a grocery store."

"All right, I'll take it back myself." I retorted.

The following day was a Saturday, I don't work on Saturdays and I wasn't due on the first tee for the monthly medal till two o'clock.

After breakfast I took the lettuce along to the grocer's. It was early and there were no customers about. The proprietor came forward.

My courage ebbed but I couldn't back out now; not after all I'd said to Alice.

"Would you," I asked politely, holding up the lettuce for his inspection, "say it was playing the game to sell an inexperienced housewife a lettuce like this?"

He didn't appear to realise that the lettuce was one of his—that it had been bought in his store.

When I explained the object of my visit he was highly indignant. "What do you mean?" he asked scornfully. "I wouldn't dream of handling such miserable stuff as that."

He went through to the back premises and returned with three huge lettuces. He dumped them on the counter. They were beauties. No mistake about it. Their hearts were as firm and as hard as Alice often says mine is.

"There you are. These are the kind of lettuces I sell."

I stood my ground. I didn't like the aggressive way he emphasized the "I."

"That's as maybe, but it doesn't explain this." I dangled Alice's lettuce in front of his blazing eyes. At that moment a customer came in. I began to wish I'd kept quiet.

"It beats me," said the grocer. "I just can't make head or tail of it. You see," he looked at me witheringly, "I do all the buying myself."

More customers arrived.

"Here," he said suddenly, picking up one of the lettuces he had brought from the back shop, "take this one in its place and we'll call it quits."

It was the quickest acceptance of an offer I had ever made.

When I opened the door Alice was vacuuming the dining room. Proudly I produced my lettuce. I asked her to feel its weight; to test the firmness of its heart and the crispness of the outer leaves.

Now, normally, Alice is a placid, even-tempered girl. But when she saw it she went in off the deep end.

"And what explanation," she demanded, "did Mr. Arbuckle give for foisting the other one on to me?"

"Mr. Arbuckle?" I gasped. "Mr. Arbuckle? But I . . . I thought you shopped at Mr. McEwen's."

For a few long moments Alice stared at me. Then, shaking her head despairingly, she flicked the switch of the vacuum cleaner.

I wouldn't have believed it possible that so much feeling could be expressed in one small word.

Above the whine of the machine I heard it clearly.

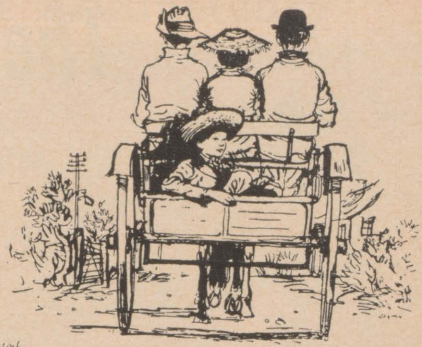
"Men!"

The Country Lane

THE YAK

*As a friend to the children
Commend me the Yak,
You will find it exactly the thing.
It will carry and fetch,
You can ride on its back,
Or lead it about with a string.
A Tartar who dwells on the
Plains of Tibet,
(A desolate region of snow,)
Has for centuries made it
A nursery pet,
And surely the Tartar should know.
Then tell your Papa
Where the Yak can be got,
And, if he is awfully rich,
He will buy you the creature
Or else he will not,
I cannot be positive which.*

HILAIRE BELLOC



WORLD NEW MADE

*I saw it! Yes, I saw creation
new again
as out across
the void of desert night,
the dark stretched . . . infinite . . .
And then I heard!
I heard the words,
"Let there be Light!"
The graying sky breathed
with first dawn awareness,
and the hills themselves
stirred in their purpled sleep;
then it was there . . .
a burst of glory . . . instantaneous . . .
as day spilled golden
on a new made world.*

LORRAINE BABBITT

HOMECOMING

*Sunset's crimson blaze unfurl,
Laced with gold and trimmed with pearl.
Let the mighty pines stand guard
O'er these things of Him, our God.
Let the blue sky, tinged with pink
Lower than the earth now sink.
Let the blackness of the night
Look on water, silver bright.
Let the whispering leaves begin
To speak so softly with the wind.
Let every river rippling free
Tell every flower and stone and tree,
Tell every bird with outstretched wing,
Prepared to fly, "Now fly and sing."
Let every star light heaven's dome.
Let all be glad—I'm coming home!*

MARGARET SIMPSON

NIGHT TRAVEL

*The car holds steady to its course
Along this lonely road. The force
Of wind plays frenzied violins
Against the partly opened fins,
And sealed in darkness, we succumb
To silence and the motor's hum,
Suspended in monotony,
Each to his private reverie,
Until abandoning the night
At city's edge for life and light.*

BETTY ISLER

GARDEN HAPPY

*Catalog listings, from arm chair position
Radiate promise packed with nutrition.
I relish my garden of anticipation
Minus blisters and sweat of realization.*

MILDRED HOSKINSON

ROCKY ROAD

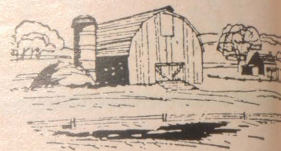
*We lived one time on a wildwood hill,
And the road went winding down
By rocky twist and turn until
It finally found a town.
Where level streets run straight and true,
Their elbows cornered square,
With never a canyon's curlicue
To thwart their thoroughfare.
Though pleasant indeed are peopled streets,
They cannot share the thrill
Of slowing down for deer one meets,
Winding a wooded hill!*

S. OMAR BARKER



The Better Impulse

NEWS AND VIEWS OF THE
WOMEN'S INSTITUTES OF QUEBEC



OFFICE HAPPENINGS

PROGRAMS—It will soon be time for annual meetings and new programs. When sending in your new program, would you please mark on it what day and week of the month your meeting is held. It is often useful for the office as well as the demonstrators.

Education Week is March 6-12 —“Education—Everybody's Business.”

From the Canadian Conference on Education HQ comes this message—“Co-operate with your local committee in this annual observance, commission articles, plan broadcasts, invite speakers. The public **MUST** know the needs and accomplishments of your schools. **YOUR** help is essential.”

And from Dr. Wilder Penfield —“Educators have it in their power to mould our future . . . Knowledge, skill, creative thought, understanding and wisdom are the objectives of their labour. Add to these things courage and you have the fabric of Canada's defence and

her best hope for achievement and happiness.”

NEW HORIZONS FOR WOMEN

AT the UN Seminar on the Participation of Women in Public Life held in Bogota, Colombia, in May 1959, Lady Coomaraswamy went from Ottawa as a representative from the Associated Country Women of the World. Delegates from each of the 26 South American countries and territories attended.

Although women in all these countries except Paraguay have the vote in Parliamentary and municipal elections, Lady Coomaraswamy found conditions much the same as in Asian countries. The men were not enthusiastic about the women taking part in public life, and the women were unprepared to do so. There was much illiteracy among women and little opportunity for education among the rural population. Some radio schools have been established where the people gather around the village radio to get instruction in

reading and writing, and also in agricultural problems, and these are doing very good work. Through Crefal, the UN agency in Latin America, leaders are being trained. These go out to the villages (many villages are very isolated) to teach better housing, food and health, education, etc. They also assist the young women in crafts and the marketing of their products, but all this is spread pretty thinly as yet. Mrs. Roberts visited some of these villages and reports that these friendly industrious people still need a tremendous amount of help.

A great need is evident for organizations such as the Women's Institutes, and great interest was evidenced concerning the ACWW and its program for rural women.

It will be interesting to watch for further developments, as even with 31 participating countries, we have none in South America. And with the exception of Trinidad and Jamaica, none in that area.



Members of the Abbotsford Branch of the Q.W.I. celebrating their 30th Anniversary. A luncheon was enjoyed at the Sonnehof Tea Room. Mrs. R. Thompson, past Provincial President is seated in the front row, second from left.

Cleveland W. I. Celebrate 40th Anniversary

CLEVELAND W. I. recently celebrated their 40th Anniversary. A Life Membership was presented to Mrs. Etta Healy, at whose home the organization meeting was held October 18, 1919.

Mrs. C. Armstrong, the first President of the Branch read a "Branch History. These ladies can be truly proud of the tremendous amount of work accomplished by their branch throughout the years.

Nine of the original members were present on this occasion, and they are shown in the photo: Seated left to right: Mrs. C. Armstrong, Mrs. H. Healy, Mrs. J. Day. Standing: Miss A. Pease, Mrs. H. Adams, Mrs. E. Healy, Mrs. G. Tozer and Miss A. Dresser.



Dignity and Death

By Kathryn NORRIS in
"Traffic Safety"

I would as soon be killed and eaten by cannibals as to die in an automobile accident.

Like anyone else who never will elect to become a suicide, I shall not be able to choose the time, the place, or the means of my own death. But, like any one else I have preferences.

And I can think of no more repugnantly undignified a way for my life to end than to become one of the thousands who die annually on our streets and highways.

Denied Privacy

What impressed itself indelibly on my mind as I see the aftermath of serious injury and death in traffic crashes is the fact that an accident victim is denied the personal privacy and public sympathy most of us aspire to when we consider our own deaths.

With the exception of mishaps which take place in remote or inaccessible spots, any crash immediately draws a crowd of spectators, some of them simply morbidly curious.

Subject to Scrutiny

Victims, be they innocent babies, once-vibrant teenagers, well-behaved adults or sedate elderly persons, are subjected to the avid scrutiny of those who will regale listeners for days with lurid details of what they saw.

Bleeding, broken, clothing pulled indelicately awry, limbs grotesquely sprawled, senses befuddled, or faces mirroring the shocking finality of sudden death, the accident victim has lost in the moment of impact, that intangible but precious commodity known as human dignity.

'Death with Serenity'

It is my profound conviction that every individual is entitled to look forward to inevitable death with serenity, with the assurance that when his time comes to die, he can "wrap the draperies of his couch about him and lie down to pleasant dreams" without an audience of gaping strangers surrounding him.

Almost anyone, whatever his station in life, whatever his education, his religion or his personal philosophy, will concede a certain attitude or respect toward the newly dead—except on the highway.

After a wreck, all canons of good taste, good conduct, and good sense are relaxed, and the mob instinct prevails.

Death on a public thoroughfare provides much the same sort of spectacle as a lynching. I want none of it, for myself, or for anyone I love. I'd like to die with dignity.

CANADIAN HOUSEWIFE NOT FAMILIAR WITH LAMB

HOW many Canadian housewives serve lamb? Unfortunately, only a small number. In fact, 60% of this country's homemakers never serve it. This rather startling facet of Canadian lamb eating habits was brought out by a survey conducted among 4,103 English-speaking housewives. The survey was conducted by the New Zealand Meat Producers' Board to assist this country's lamb industry and to boost New Zealand lamb imports.

Canadian lamb producers are not the best consumers of their own product. Only one farm housewife in five buys lamb. In large cities 56% of the housewives purchase lamb and, in the smaller towns, one in three buys it. Lamb is least popular on the Prairie Provinces and most popular in Ontario and British Columbia.

Older women (45% of them) buy more lamb than younger homemakers (37% of them). High income families eat lamb more often than low income ones — 49% against 32%. Lamb chops were more popular than roasts in all areas except the Maritimes, where roasts are preferred.

Canadian lamb consumption was 2.7 lb. per capita in 1958. Lack of knowledge and familiarity seems to be the main reason for the low consumption. Unless some action is taken to stimulate lamb buying, particularly among the younger housewives, the New Zealand meat producers claim consumption will continue to decline.

The Month With The W.I.

CHRISTMAS meetings are in the news this month, and many less fortunate than ourselves were remembered. Getting back to normal, may I remind you of the T.V. and Radio Survey. Please get your reports in as soon as possible, the deadline is March 1st. Bonaventure will sell W.I. seals, as a County project. The seals are exact replicas of your Q.W.I. Badge, and an envelope of 100, may be purchased for \$1. Write to Mrs. Oliver Watt, Marcil, Que., if you are interested. This seems to be a good Publicity project.

BONAVENTURE:

BLACK CAPE Instead of the usual gift exchange, donations were given toward the purchase of a wheelchair, for a lady in the community. Clothing was sent to the U.S.C. and plans made to cater at an Artillery Ball. Home-Decorating and weaving, were 1st and 2nd choices for a course. **GRAND CASCAPEDIA** members responded to the roll call, with a Christmas card for a shut-in; planned a cheer basket for a sick member. **MARCIL** welcomed a new member, and made plans for a Whist party. Hot lunches are to be served at the Shigawake-Port-Daniel School; Human Rights Day was observed. **MATAPEDIA** acknowledged letters from Mrs. Harvey, the Cancer Society, and Macdonald College. Mrs. E. Boudreau, Convenor of Citizenship, presented the Monthly Letter of the Royal Bank of Canada, and the Home Economics Convenor, showed a Quantity Cooking Chart, as prepared by Marjorie Elwood. Application made for the Sewing Course. Mrs. L. Kearney reported on Education, and the booklet "Home, Safe Home," was given out. Discussed the completed one week study on School Programmes and Children's Programmes, for the CBC, also the Radio and T.V. Survey. **PORT DANIEL** appointed a School Fair committee, which is sponsored jointly with Marcil W.I. Mrs. C. Dow reported sales of UNICEF cards. For Canada's Centenary in 1967, this Branch suggests a campaign for racial freedom for those against whom segregation is practised.

RESTIGOUCHE had an exchange of gifts, will sell tickets for a box of groceries. Old folks, shut-ins, and hospital patients were remembered.

BROME:

ABERCORN held a card party, and plan tours of Bruck Mills, and Yartex Knitting Mills. **AUSTIN** sent their donation to the Service Fund. Sent flowers to sick and shut-ins, and to a member on a 50th Anniversary. Filled Radio and T.V. Survey Forms. **KNOWLTON'S LANDING** contributed to the Service Fund; sent flowers to a bereaved family. **SOUTH BOLTON** exchanged candy recipes, and had a demonstration on making Christmas decorations. Named a Canadian paper or magazine for roll call, held a quiz on the W.I. **SUTTON** heard a paper on Publicity, and had a Silent Food Sale. 16 pairs of socks, and 7 quilts were made for the Red Cross in December and January.

CHATEAUGUAY-HUNTINGDON:

AUBREY-RIVERFIELD completed three quilts, these and toys went to Lachine Children's Hospital. **DUNDEE** observed one minute's silence, as tribute to

Mrs. Smellie. The Agriculture Convenor discussed deficiency payments, and price support changes. The Citizenship Convenor spoke on the contribution of Italian Immigrants to Canadian economy, and discussed the Canadian Citizenship Council. **DEWITT-VILLE** had a Christmas salad demonstration. Donated food to a bereaved family. **FRANKLIN** members invited their husbands to a Social Evening; also held two card parties. The School principal spoke on "The Space Age and the Future," later he showed oil paintings and water colors he and his pupils had done. A \$50 Bursary was given to a High School pupil. **HEMMINGFORD** enjoyed a bakery tour and plan a card party. **HUNTINGDON** plan to show a Safe Driving film. The Education Convenor read an article concerning Juvenile delinquents. The Welfare and Health Convenor gave rules for good health: 8 hours each for work-play-sleep, and all for God. Held an interesting discussion on Quebec laws regarding Wills, Succession Duties and Marriage Contracts.

COMPTON:

CANTERBURY discussed ways to raise 10¢ per member, for the Adelaide Hoodless Home. Reported on Christmas Cheer, and plans for the new programme. **EAST ANGUS** will pay for cocoa made at the school. Mrs. Coates gave the Radio Broadcast, on "Conversation." Made donations to the SPCA, the Cecil Memorial Home, and for Christmas Cheer. **EAST CLIFTON** brought cotton for the Cancer Society; heard a reading by the Citizenship Convenor. Had a contest for words made with the letters in "Women's Institute." **SCOTSTOWN** celebrated their 25th Anniversary, 10 Charter Members were present, six of them on the present membership roll. The secretary presented a review of the 25 years work. Mrs. Boy, County President, brought greetings from the County. The gift of a linen tea towel, was received from a W.I. in England. Color slides were enjoyed at this meeting, and gifts sent to the Wales Home.

GATINEAU:

AYLMER EAST Mrs. Chester Pink, as guest speaker, gave an account of the ACWW Conference, and her tour of Europe. Two Christmas contests were held. **EARDLEY** received letters of thanks from the Cancer Society, and the U.S.C. Mrs. E. Kennedy read an article "The Brought Christmas," planned a social evening. **HURDMAN HEIGHTS** entertained 20 children, with Christmas carols and stories. **LOWER EARDLEY** had a "White Elephant Sale" for roll call. Discussed the Aylmer Fair list and allotted entries to members. Heard articles on "Dentistry for Cattle" and "Tips On Buying and Caring for Sweaters." **KAZABAZUA** January meeting cancelled due to weather. **LAKEVIEW** Mrs. H. Ellard gave an account of her visit to the ACWW Conference, and to England and Ireland. Mrs. Sheehan gave a bread-making demonstration. **WAKEFIELD** members had to describe a farm implement; held a discussion on articles for the Aylmer Fair. **WRIGHT** Mrs. R. Derby Welfare and Health Convenor, was in charge of the meeting. Readings by Mrs. R. Stevenson and Mrs. G. Howard on "What Causes Fatigue in Women?" "The Birthplace of Adelaide Hoodless," and a poem, "Tidy People." Health leaflets were distributed.

JACQUES-CARTIER:

STE. ANNE'S Roll call was cotton for cancer dressings and a recipe for an old-fashioned remedy. Miss Runnells showed a film on Leathercraft; made plans for the annual banquet, and a course in jewellery-making.

MISSISQUOI:

COWANSVILLE favoured the Adelaide Hoodless project. Brought cotton for the Cancer Society. Mrs. Hilton Smith gave demonstrations on making curtains and drapes. The Agriculture Convenor gave fine definition of the word, "garden" which is of English origin. Planned a card party. DUNHAM planning calendars for the Anniversary year, 1961. The Publicity Convenor read a paper on the Adelaide Hoodless Home. Donation sent to Service Fund. FORDYCE gave a common cold remedy for roll call; brought cotton for cancer dressings. Convenors gave excellent reports. *Agriculture*, "Sausages and Canned Meats," *Citizenship*, "A Tribute to the late Premier P. Sauvé," *Education*, "Retarded Children First Learn the Obvious," *Home Economics*, "The Humble Spud," *Publicity*, "Birthplace of Adelaide Hoodless," Programme was directed by Welfare and Health Convenor, a contest was won by Mrs. M. Lewis, and members sang Song of Peace. STANBRIDGE EAST named a "Song My Grandmother Used to Sing," as roll call, some members dressed in corresponding styles. A tea towel printed with New Zealand scenes, and a gift sent by the exchange Branch, were displayed. (They also sent their programme.) A \$5 memorial for a deceased member was sent to the School for Retarded Children. Layettes will be made for Unitarian relief.

PAPINEAU:

LOCHABER discussed the Adelaide Hoodless Home, and the T.V. and Radio Survey. Held a knitting contest; the exceptional quality of the entries made judging difficult. Sent 33 Christmas baskets to the Hospital, four potted cyclamens to senior members, and a box of Diabetic-food to a neighbour. A frame will be made for the WI history.

MEGANTIC:

INVERNESS discussed the Radio and T.V. Survey, renewed their C.A.C. membership, received a grant for the School Fair, sent a donation to the Salvation Army, and will remember a hospital patient.

PONTIAC:

BEECH GROVE sang carols, enjoyed games, exchanged gifts and planned a skating party. BRISTOL brought gifts for Brookdale Farm as roll call, and had a jewellery making demonstration. CLARENDON recited a four line Christmas verse for roll call. Application will be made for millinery course. FORT COULONGE report good Christmas meeting and will apply for a leathercraft course. QUYON also plans a course, sewing or hat remodelling. Voted money for the Service Fund, and TB seals fund. SHAWVILLE plan a Bridge Marathon, read items of current news, and sent a donation to Brookdale Farm Orphanage. WYMAN heard convenors reports, a Christmas story, "Command Performance," and held a "Name the Cake" contest.

QUEBEC:

VALCARTIER report a Christmas party, donated treats to the Intermediate School, and Convent. A card party brought the sum of \$101.52. Roll call was a "Good Health Rule." The Welfare and Health convenor gave a bandage demonstration.

RICHMOND:

GOKE held a swap contest. Donated to the Wales Home, sent diapers to the Cecil Memorial Home, made 590 pads and will knit bed socks for the Cancer Society. Will send used Christmas cards to a leper colony. MELBOURNE RIDGE plan a rug making course in June. Paid a subscription to the Federated News, for ten copies, and the Branch History will be brought up to date. RICHMOND HILL Roll call was a four line verse "What My Husband Thinks of the WI." (This Branch is not telling!) Five fines of 25¢ were paid (scared??) Sent clothing to the Cecil Memorial Home. \$10 and candy distributed to children of unemployed and sent cards and Sunshine Boxes. SPOONER POND heard excerpts from the C.A.C. Bulletin, and a biographical reading on Mr. Diefenbaker was given by a guest. Contribution given to St. Francis High School for hot lunches, clothing sent to the U.S.C. Cheer boxes sent to the sick, shut-ins and needy families. WINDSOR held a display of old fancy work, many interesting pieces, done in 1890 were shown. Held food sale.

ROUVILLE:

ABBOTSFORD had a guest from Germany, at their meeting. Mr. A. Jones spoke on "Ornamental Horticulture." Slides of many beautiful flowers were shown. Amusing roll call was "My Most Annoying Task."

SHEFFORD:

GRANBY HILL Roll call was donating 50¢ each, to buy mitts for needy children. Made donations to the Friendly Home in Montreal, Montreal Children's Hospital. Planned a Memorial for Mrs. H. B. Neil, a deceased charter member. Gave prizes for improvement in French, in Grades III - XI at Granby High School, and ordered dish towels for school lunch room. Catered at a Masonic Supper. GRANBY WEST enjoyed a Watkins demonstration, and planned a First Aid Course. Sent cigarettes to Veterans, and gave a donation to buy gifts for needy children. WATERLOO-WARDEN report their Christmas meeting. Sold UNICEF cards, gave school prizes, and donated to the Service Fund.

SHERBROOKE:

ASCOT held a card party. Sent a case of oranges to the "Home for Aged," boxes to sick and shut-ins, and gave a donation to the SPCA. BELVIDERE enjoyed a Christmas party and had a food and homemade candy sale. LENNOXVILLE heard an article on conservation and the cutting of Christmas trees. Held a Christmas cookie contest with prizes and sold the recipes. Donated gifts to Cancer patients.

STANSTEAD:

AYERS CLIFF Mrs. Robinson of Massawippi was guest speaker with an interesting talk on United Nations. Sent gifts to the Home for Retarded Children in Dixville. BEEBE sent 19 Christmas Cheer Boxes, report a meeting of readings and carol singing. HATLEY sent gifts to the Children's Memorial Hospital, and donated \$10 to the Sunday School. Held a Table Decorating Contest, and sent a basket of food and gifts to a homeless family. STANSTEAD NORTH enjoyed a Pot Luck dinner, and exchanged gifts. Sent Christmas Cheer to the Dixville Home. MINTON gave a Radio broadcast, on "Minton History," made donations to the School for Retarded Children, Wales Home, and to the High School Christmas dinner. WAY'S MILLS sent a quilt to the Dixville Home, and gifts to the Grenfell Hospital in Labrador.

A Follow-Up On National Health Week

By Gladys H. HOLMES

Provincial Convenor of Health and Welfare

WHY a National Health Week?" is the question asked by the Health League of Canada. The answer, "To make Canadians aware of the achievements of medical science in the areas of "Prevention and Cure," and to point up the ways in which each Canadian can utilize these developments to have GOOD HEALTH."

The following is a summary of four articles which appeared in the December edition of "The Canadian Nurse," to deal with the prevention of accidents which can, and frequently do happen in the home: That haven where children are often described as being "safe at Home."

"Get down to brass tacks. Prevent Home Accidents."

It may shock you to learn that according to figures published by the American National Safety Council, there are approximately 32,000 people killed accidentally at home every year. 130,000 are permanently injured, and 4,750,000 are maimed, disfigured, or disabled.

These figures are further broken down to show that,
16,000 are killed by falls

5,600 by burns, explosions, and fires

2,000 suffocate

1,500 are poisoned

1,200 die from firearms accidents

1,000 are asphyxiated

4,700 killed in other ways.

In the five years and under age group one out of three accidental deaths is due to poisoning, and one out of three deaths is due to burns. This is a very high average for children still in the age group where they should be constantly supervised. These figures are based on the population of the USA, but the survey of Health in Canada, does not show any improvement.

Can a mother, or housewife be held entirely responsible for these accidents? Authorities say NO, it is not a job for one person alone, but a part of the entire family's responsibility, in which father, and other members of the family must share. The father, as head of the family, must be conscious of the need for necessary repairs, etc., from time to time, and parents must set an example by having "a place for everything,

and everything in its place," and the entire family should be taught to be safety conscious.

"Death from Plastic Film."

Dr. Jeffrey writes of "A new hazard in our modern way of life." The press in daily publications is doing a fine job pointing up the fatal accidents due to thin plastic, which adheres so readily once it comes in contact with the human face. There have been 16 accidental deaths in Canada so far, due to suffocation from thin plastic material. Of these, 15 deaths occurred in infants from six weeks to eleven months of age. 10, were caused by plastic garment bags used to cover crib or carriage mattress,, two deaths were of infants allowed to sleep on cushions covered with the thin plastic, and three deaths caused when plastic bags were given to infants as playthings.

The use of plastic protective film has been gaining in popularity, and it has protective qualities which make it ideal for the packaging of food products, and for other home uses. For this reason prohibiting its use does not seem justified. The menace it *may* become can be readily avoided by the simple means of disposing of the plastic material once it has served its original purpose. It should be safely discarded by burning it, using it to wrap up garbage, or tying it in a knot before disposing of it in the garbage pail. Saving it for future use in a home where there are small children, is a risk which no sensible parent can afford to take.

"Boracic Acid - the Wolf in Sheep's Clothing."

Boracic Acid has been a popular home remedy for many ailments for many years, and it will be difficult to convince mothers, in particular, that it is really a dangerous poison. Doctors began to be suspicious of it several years ago, and made private surveys which convinced them that, not only was it *not* a good antiseptic, but that any good qualities it might have, were far outweighed by its poisonous effects. It should be emphasized that no matter whether a boron product enters the body by swallowing, or through the mucous membrane of the

mouth or eyes, through wounds, or chafed buttocks, *ONCE IN THE BODY IT ACTS AS A POISON.* "The Problem of Poisons."

Dr. John Dean points out that North American children are astoundingly healthy these days, due to prosperity, and preventative medicine, and that accidents are the biggest threat to physical health. Many accidents are beyond the control of any particular person, but those resulting from poisoning in the home, could be practically eliminated by a little more care on the part of the housekeeper. They happen most often to children between the ages of one and four years old, and they happen mostly during the hours between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. and mostly during mother's telephone sessions, or while she is hanging out the washing. It is practically a superman task for any mother to keep her toddler under her eyes all its waking hours, but she can and should "KEEP HER MEDICINE CABINET LOCKED."

It is also pointed out, that there are more than 10,000 products likely to be used in the home that can and do cause poisoning. No one doctor can be expected to know or remember the make up of them all, nor can he keep up with all the new drugs, cleansing agents, etc., that come onto the market. It is because of this that there are now at least 30 Poison Control Centres in operation across Canada. Usually situated in a well established hospital. There are some well-known antidotes that can be used as first aid, in the case of some of the more common causes of poisoning. Vomiting can be induced under almost all circumstances. However, in acid or alkaline ingestion vomiting is thought to be dangerous, and dilution with copious amounts of water is preferred. At any rate "speed is essential," as children's stomachs empty very rapidly. Nothing can or ever will replace constant vigilance on the part of parents, and nothing is more futile than the regrets which follow an accident which *could have been prevented.*

We have heard about preventative medicine, and its relative success for many years, let us now concentrate on "Accident Prevention."

RECIPE PAGE

February Fancies

E GGS and Pork are the pick of the foods for February. We've chosen omelettes as our main "egg theme" and top-stove cooking of pork shoulder as our feature for pork.

There are two types of omelette, the plain or French type, and the fluffy or American type.

In the plain omelette the yolks and the whites are beaten together with milk, poured into a hot, well-greased skillet and lifted gently from time to time (not stirred) to permit the uncooked mixture to flow underneath. It takes about 5 minutes to cook a plain omelette.

For the fluffy omelette the whites are beaten separately until stiff then folded into the egg yolks and milk which have been mixed together. The mixture is cooked slowly for 10 to 15 minutes, without any stirring, until puffy and beginning to shrink from the sides of the pan. Then the omelet is placed in a 300°F. oven until completely set and dry on top, about 10 minutes.

You can add any number of variations of your own to the fillings. This recipe makes 2 to 4 servings.

Omelette

- 1 tablespoon butter
- 4 eggs
- 4 tablespoons milk or water
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1/8 teaspoon pepper

Melt butter in frying pan. Mix and cook remaining ingredients according to previous methods given for plain or fluffy omelet.

After cooking crease omelet through centre with spatula, fold over and serve on a hot platter.

Salmon Omelette

- 6 eggs, separated
- 4 tablespoons hot water



Photo Courtesy Fisheries Association of B.C.

- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 1 cup pink salmon (1, 1/2 pound can)
- 2 tablespoons fat

Preheat oven to 375 deg. F. Beat egg whites until stiff. To yolks add water and salt; beat until thick. Fold whites and flaked salmon into the yolks. Melt fat in a heavy skillet or frying pan with heat-proof handle. Pour in omelette mixture and spread evenly. Cook very slowly until set and golden brown underneath. Place in preheated oven to finish cooking and brown top. Makes 6 servings.

Parisian Boiled Pork Dinner With Vegetables

- 2 pounds pork shoulder
- 6 to 8 cups hot water
- 1 pound salt pork, cut into 6 pieces
- 6 medium carrots, cut crosswise into 2 or 3 pieces
- 1 small turnip, cut into 6 wedges

- 6 medium potatoes, cut in half
- 6 medium small onions, each studded with 1 whole clove
- 1 medium head of cabbage, cut into 6 wedges
- 1 1/2 teaspoons salt
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- "Hot" mustard

Place meat in a 6-quart kettle. Add enough hot water to just cover meat. Cover tightly, bring to a boil and simmer for 1 hour.

Turn meat over. Add pieces of salt pork, cover and continue simmering for 1 hour longer. Turn meat again. Add first four vegetables in the order given above. Sprinkle most of salt and pepper over the top. Add cabbage and remaining salt and pepper.

Cover, bring back to a boil, then boil gently until vegetables are tender, about 1/2 hour. Arrange vegetables on a platter around meat and serve with cooking broth.

Use "hot" mustard as an accompaniment. 6 servings.

IS YOUR PASTURE DYING OF OLD AGE?

(Continued from page 5)

non's experience, Timothy in the mixture proved more vigorous than the brome grass, and the ladino appeared to crowd out the birdsfoot trefoil.

MacKinnon's improved pasture — and he has seeded down a new field each year to establish a rotation — is all within 300 yards of the farmstead. It's a waste of time improving pasture too far away according to Steppler. "It takes too long to fetch the cows, and a man is likely to neglect control of grazing if it's too far away. With beef cattle pasture, proximity to the barns isn't so important."

While Steppler's method of broadcast seeding in early spring before frost is out of the ground has proved successful on the lighter Greensboro clay loams of the Eastern Townships, the method hasn't worked with such great effect on the heavier clays of Pontiac county, or around Ormstown and Ste. Rosalie. Here it has been necessary to work the seedbed in spring, then seed the forage seeds with the nurse crop.

On the lighter soils the early broadcast seed can be up and off to a fast start before the cultivating and seeding equipment can get on the heavy wet land. And the early starting seedlings, unhindered by a nurse crop, develop so rapidly under the cool moist conditions that they don't need the shade and protection of a nurse crop when the hot sun finally does beat down on them.

BEDS FOR HAPPY COWS

WE have long been told by scientists that the dairy cow is the prima donna of the farmyard," said agricultural programme producer Peter Enders in England, recently.

"If the lady is to give of her best, she must have the full treatment. A visit to any well organized cowshed will quickly show just what this entails. The first essential is a wall chart in front of each stall, on which vital information can be recorded. Such things as ages, condition—which for a cow, incidentally, is nearly always the same—milk and butterfat yields are proudly displayed under each long and fanciful name—for it has long been established that these ladies must have a name suited to their exalted breeding. The second 'must' is a diet chart, showing quite clearly just how many ingredients are needed to produce that careful blend of starch and protein which is so important for a good figure and radiant health. If you add to all this a little music at milking time, one would think that even the most neurotic of cows would respond to such loving care. But apparently this is still not enough, if the pampered creature finds it impossible to rest in comfort.

"The news has recently come that a British farmer, Major Anthony Bramley, is getting more milk from his animals by providing each cow with an individual plastic mattress." "These beds are so successful," claims Major Bramley, "it is nearly impossible to wake the cows up in the morning."

"All over the world this idea has created so much interest that Major Bramley is touring the United States and Canada to promote the sales of his new invention,"

APPLES FOR HEALTH

FOR centuries men have realized that apples were good for them. "Ait a happle avore gwain to bed and you'll make the doctor beg his bread," wrote Thomas Cogan in 1670.

Yet only today, through intensive scientific research, are we discovering just what is an apple and how apples affect bodily structures and functions.

So far, we know that apples provide dietary balance and significant amounts of minerals and vitamins in complementary combinations with other foods. Also, that their fruit sugars supply quick energy. And apple juice leaves behind an alkaline residue universally agreed to be an aid in recovery from colds, influenza and virus infections.

Weight Control

As for weight control, a large-sized apple (approx. 6 ozs.), contains about a hundred calories. An apple will satisfy the urge for "something to nibble on" without wrecking a reducing diet. Those hundred calories are spread out in time and satisfaction, while the soft bulk of the apple stops the hunger pangs without leaving a heavy feeling.

PUTTING IT SIMPLY

Complaining about incomprehensive official jargon, the Irish poet W. R. Rogers quoted the experience of a journalist friend of his, who had been asked to write an article on the organization and working of fire brigades in England. Hoping to get a clear and human story straight from the source, he called on the chief fire brigade officer in a big city. Unfortunately, the chief was very much on his dignity that morning and seemed unable to answer any questions except in the pompous 'officialese.' At last, the journalist asked if the chief would tell him simply what he would do if a fire alarm came in when all his fire engines were already out at another fire. "Os," said the chief, "Then we would augment the predestined allocation." "And what the devil would that mean?" demanded the exasperated journalist. "Ah," said the chief, "in plain words, it means that we send another blasted fire engine!"

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

*always the 25th
of the month
preceding!*

Serious family problems such as severe illness, death or money problems should not be discussed in the presence of small children who may develop fear of conditions that they do not understand.



"Maybe we aren't seeing the matter eye to eye?" Could be what this prize chinchilla said to Daphne Browning at the United Kingdom Chinchilla Show in London, last December.

Chinchillas — Homemaker's Hobby?

By Rachael NORRIS

An English writer makes some suggestions about luxury fur raising on a budget income

CHINCHILLAS themselves are far from new, for records tell us that they were living in the Andes Mountains, the home of the Chinch Indians, in South America during the fifteenth century. The neighbouring Inca Indians even waged war on the Chinchas for possession of the chinchillas.

Later, in the sixteenth century, Spanish explorers hunted and traded the chinchillas for the fur, which was quickly adopted by the Spanish Court as the official fur. Only when these animals became almost extinct was a more common fur introduced, i.e. the ermine.

In 1918 a Mr. Chapman, an American mining engineer visiting the Andes on business, picked up a word here and there from the peasants about the chinchilla and was quick to realise the future for him if he could find some and breed them in captivity. After four years he managed to find a colony of 14 at an altitude of 12,000 ft., and with great determination and patience, he brought them down the mountain gradually in short stages, giving them time to get accustomed to different temperatures. It was in 1923 that he triumphantly returned to California with 11 live chinchillas.

When I read this article in a true-story magazine some years ago I was most intrigued and felt how wonderful it would be if I

could breed these lovely little animals. Then, about a year ago, I saw an advertisement and decided to take the plunge.

I have found that in many ways chinchilla breeding is similar to pig breeding. For instance, the age that youngsters start breeding and the gestation period.

It was in February that we thought that the two adults had mated. It is not easy to know when this has taken place as these animals are nocturnal. However 111 days after, our babies arrived, fully furred, eyes open, and quite prepared for anything. I don't think I have ever had such a thrill before.

I can definitely recommend this hobby to anyone. It can be very profitable, all stock being in demand for breeding. There is literally no work attached to it, the feeding costs are negligible — 1s. a week will feed one pair. They have no vices, are spotlessly clean, cages are obtainable with wire trays for easy cleaning and, above all, they can be kept in a spare room in the house if required, as they are completely odourless.

Their diet is simple. Specially prepared pellets and water and good, though not too high a protein, hay (Timothy if possible), very small amounts of green foods, and one raisin per week

keeps them healthy.

The adults, when sent out from America, are graded for their fur, and when buying from an agent in this country the grading sheets should accompany the chinchillas. There are 12 desirable characters such as colour, density, texture, etc., and I would advise against having anything under 9a, which is considered choice. I have two youngsters from 9a parents, one adult 11a and the other adult 9a, from which I have bred my two babies. By mating a higher grade male to a lower grade female one can obtain higher grade offspring.

To obtain a pair of adults Grade A would cost £100. These animals are guaranteed to breed, having already littered at least once. A pair of youngsters approximately 12 weeks old are available for £50, or to buy a pair of each which are unrelated is £150 so you save £10 on the deal. By getting these two pairs the breeder is set up for some time without inbreeding.

If you are still gasping at the high price of the animals, remember that once they are purchased that is practically the end of your expenditure and your venture will soon grow into money without any big food bills coming in which I found when breeding pigs.

When purchasing chinchillas make sure that you go to a reliable

(Continued on page 22)

WHEN IS A TAX RETURN?

How far can a taxpayer pull the collective leg of tax office with immunity? We hereby cite a case which might provide some answers to this question.

The case concerns a Winnipeg company which was required by the Minister of National Revenue to produce income tax returns on T2 Corporation Tax Return Forms. An officer of the company, riled by official procedure, complied with a vengeance. Typical of the taxpayer's comments in the forms submitted were the following:

Asked for financial statements and schedules: "None available." Taxable income: "Not known, cannot afford expensive accounting." Asked about reserves as provisions for doubtful debts or liabilities: "No reserves, all debts doubtful, liability unlimited." Finally, asked for the amount of tax payable after deducting tax allowances, he wrote, "Cannot afford domestic tax, what say foreign handouts."

The company was charged with the offence of failing to file returns, an omission that may cost anything from \$200 to \$10,000 in penalties.

The taxpayer won the first round when a magistrate dismissed the charge on the grounds that the form constituted a return. The Crown then appealed to the Manitoba Court of Appeal by way of stated case. The second round also went to the taxpayer. The court was confined to the facts as stated in the first hearing which were that T2 forms were returned giving "certain information." As a result the court dismissed the appeal on the grounds that a T2 form containing "certain information" constituted an income tax return.

To date the taxpayer appears to have won the skirmish but it remains to be seen whether the Department of National Revenue will appeal to higher courts.

SUPERSONIC WHIPPER SNAPPER

Many people think that the noise of a whip cracking is caused by leather slapping leather as the tip of the whip comes round and hits the main part. But, in fact, the noise is a supersonic bang. Dr. Trent, of the United States Naval Research Laboratories, who has written a paper on whip cracking, said in a recent address that he first thought about the matter

when he was standing in a queue and two men in front asked him to settle an argument as to what made this familiar noise. Realising that the sound was very much like a shock wave, Dr. Trent answered, on intuition, that it was caused by the fact that the tip of a whip travelled faster than the speed of sound. Afterwards, being a scientist, he felt he had to test the theory by experiments with high-speed film. Pictures of the tip of a whip moving at 1,400 feet per second, and exposures at one-millionth of a second of changes in the density of the air, established that the tip of the whip did in fact pass through the speed of sound and cause a shock wave. The loud cracks which listeners heard during the talk were a recording made by Dr. Trent and the vaudeville artist who had worked with him for a whole afternoon to make the pictures.

WINTER TENANTS IN A SUMMER COTTAGE

THERE is considerable difference between a summer cottage and a farmhouse. Both, of course, are set on land far from a subway or a downtown office. But a farm, from barn to woodshed, is in continuous operation. A summer cottage is closed in autumn. As far as folks are concerned it stays as empty as a hollow stump until June. A summer cottage even skips lilac time. It has been known to miss dogwood or apple blossoms. It is strictly a summer proposition. Nothing can seem more lonesome or useless than a boarded up cottage on the edge of a mountain lake.

But there are four-legged families who know when a summer cottage is deserted. A deer mouse finds entrance in slim ways. A mouse can live snugly in a chest of drawers. He can keep warm in an old sweater. He can discover a forgotten box of cereal on a kitchen shelf. A gray squirrel slips in by way of chimney or cellar and perhaps stores some butter-nuts in the attic. And what is more, and which would sadly upset a departed owner, a skunk takes to living under a front porch which is handy to an apple tree.

A skunk is a hibernating animal, but he doesn't nap all winter long. January may be mighty cold. February can bring a lot of snow. Then a wise and unhurried skunk stays at home and sleeps soundly. But one can count on a skunk be-

ing around in thawing weeks, perhaps at maple syrup time. A farmer and a farm dog know more about skunks than is vouchsafed to the eyes and nose of a summer cottager. A skunk gets called *Mephitis mephitis* by a vacationing college professor showing off his Latin. The professor's children might pleasantly speak of the moonlight wanderer as a wood pussy. But a farmer just knows the animal as a plain skunk with a lot of fancy smell. He keeps his henhouse shut tight and if he meets the animal he remembers that sixteen feet is considered a safe distance of avoidance.

When a cottage is reopened in June a skunk will have gone afield, with a family raised since March. A deer mouse will have returned to a life more sylvan than that found in a bureau drawer. But any one who thinks that a closed up cottage is empty all winter has another guess coming. And perhaps another skunk under a front porch.

Chinchillas . . .

(Continued from page 21)

agent or breeder. I was very fortunate in picking the right one, a young farmer who is more anxious to satisfy his customer and start you off on a sound footing than he is in making money out of people's ignorance.

Mrs. Norris gives English prices and refers entirely to conditions in England in this article, but it could be just as interesting for Canadian women.

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FARM JOURNAL

Editorial

Transportation and Agriculture

The three basic industries of the Canadian economy may be thought of as those of our farms, our forests, and our mines. These industries make up a very large proportion of our exports — a reflection on their basic efficiency. Each of them is a major user of transportation services. In fact without an efficient rail industry these industries could not have enjoyed the expansion they have, and will not expand rapidly unless we have such a transportation industry.

Now that Canada is faced with the critically important transportation problem which is being examined by a Royal Commission, it is important that the case for maintaining an efficient and economic rail service for these basic industries be presented in the clearest terms.

These three industries which have historically provided a great proportion of the tonnage for our railways typically produce what is termed bulk commodities. As such this has been low-rated or low-priced traffic. The critical rail problem in Canada reflected in the deficits of the Canadian National and in the low earnings of the Canadian Pacific has occurred despite substantial increases in the volume of traffic from these industries. In fact, the financial problem of the railways derives from the loss of high-rated merchandise traffic to the trucking industry and the loss of passenger traffic to the private automobile, to the air lines and to the buses. These changes have been a part of the normal economic development of the country and of the transportation industries; generally they represent progress. However, they leave the country with a critical rail problem. And they threaten our three basic industries with the prospect of substantially increased freight charges. But these industries may not be able to absorb such increases without serious adjustments, if not a curtailing of industrial output.

The Canadian government in control of the Canadian rail industry has been progressive with respect to allowing the railways special means of preventing the loss

of traffic to the trucking industry. The first of these means is by the use of the "agreed charge" principle. Under this scheme the railways are authorized to contract with shippers and to get a guarantee of some 50 to 90 per cent of a given traffic item moving between given areas. On their part the railways grant rate concessions and generally give the traffic preferred treatment. The second device which the government has authorized is the "truck competitive" rates. Under this plan the railways are authorized to announce and put into effect a rate which is required to hold any traffic against truck competition. But even with both of these measures in operation for some years, and used fairly aggressively by the rail industry, the rail problem remains. In part this is due to the fact that this competition to hold traffic against the trucks necessarily erodes the rate structure on the high-rated traffic. It is far from clear that even with these advantages the railway industry can secure enough revenues to make their operations profitable.

It is perhaps for this reason that they have in the present Royal Commission hearings attached very great — almost exclusive — importance to the statutory rates on grain. Under these rates which go back to 1897 and which were written into the law of the land in 1925, the railways are required to carry grain at about one-half a cent per ton mile. They claim that the cost of providing this service is one cent or more. The railways propose that these rates be doubled, but that the farmer should not pay more for hauling export grain. The difference, or increase would be met by a federal subsidy to the railways. This may be a politically satisfactory way to get around a statutory rate.

But even with this subsidy the financial problems of the rail industry would not be remedied. What more can be proposed: (1) requiring truckers, air lines, and water carriers to pay the full cost of their publicly provided services; and (2) finding still other means for the railways to compete more effectively with trucks. But per-

haps even these would not solve the problem. The Royal Commission requires almost more than human wisdom.

The Coopérative Fédérée Passes 100 Million Mark

The Coopérative Fédérée, provincial agricultural co-operative wholesale, increased its business by more than 21 per cent in 1959. Total sales jumped from \$95,000,000 to \$115,000,000 in 1959, an increase of \$20 millions in a single year. Largest share of this increase was registered in sales of meat and livestock products which climbed by \$13,600,000. Sales of farm supplies were up by \$6,700,000.

Net earnings, which are made up of patronage refunds to local co-ops and income taxes, totalled \$1,023,748. The Coopérative Fédérée is the most diversified agricultural co-op in North America. It supplies farmers with feed, fertilizers, machinery, petroleum products, seeds, pesticides and herbicides, and some household equipment. It owns three livestock abattoirs, and is one of the very few North American co-ops with such facilities. It also has poultry processing plants, the most modern in the world.

Only farmers, who are directors of local co-operatives, are eligible to act as directors of the Fédérée. The present Board of Directors is made up of 18 farmers. The president is Adélar Bellemare. The Coopérative Fédérée is completely owned by local co-ops which are owned by farmers.

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